



## Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: Monday, January 25, 2016 – Business Meeting  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA  
Present: Chairman G. Woodbury, Vice Chair Stevens, Clerk C. Woodbury, Members Fritze & Pepe and Administrator Gaudette

At 6:02 p.m. Chairman Woodbury called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Action Item: Vote to authorize Chairman Pepe to participate remotely in accordance with Regulation 940, CMR 29.10 of the Open Meeting Law**

Selectmen Pepe was able to attend the meeting.

Chairman Woodbury welcomed the members of the East Brookfield (EB) Board of Selectmen, members of the School Committee (SEBRSDC) and the Superintendent and Business Manager.

### **Minutes**

*A motion to approve the Business Meeting of January 11, 2016 (Stevens/Fritze) passed 5/0.*

### **Citizen Input**

None

### **Communications**

None

### **New Business**

### **FY2017 Budget Kick-off with SEBRSD – Superintendent Crowe & Comptroller Suter (joint meeting with Spencer Finance Committee & East Brookfield Selectmen)**

Mr. Gaudette noted the members of the East Brookfield Finance Committee were also present and welcomed all to Town of Spencer and stated the goal is for everyone to be on the same page moving forward.

Superintendent Dr. Tracy Crowe and Comptroller Suter came forward to discuss the District Improvement Plan. Dr. Crowe reviewed the SEBRSD Vision which is to have a regional district that is an integral part of the community with community support necessary for the district's operation and achievement of excellence. Through collaboration, a common purpose for the future of the schools will be built.

The action necessary to achieve this revolves around the following:

1. Safe & secure schools, building repairs, security, and maintenance cycles
2. Curriculum alignment and study groups, along with a series of surveys on needs
3. Assessment schedule development
4. Teachers professional development
5. Data teams in place
6. Promotion of high quality leadership

7. Community relations and involvement where school business partnerships are created with parent partnerships, town relationships, and website enhancement

Chairman Woodbury agreed it's a great vision; it's about educating the kids. He also noted the costs will determine the priorities.

EB Board of Selectmen member Joe Fish asked about the capital improvements. Mr. Suter said they are still gathering information and looking into a facilities supervisor.

EB Board member Larry Gordan stressed the importance of keeping the community informed. Mr. Pepe agreed that public communication is key to the success of the vision.

School District member Kevin Hayes asked to be a part of the capital needs priority list. Mr. Gaudette will forward the forms.

Mark Carpentier, member of the EB Finance Committee asked if the District conducts interviews to determine why students are leaving the District. Vinny Cloutier, member of the EBRSDC indicated that the culture of the District will be a challenge to repair.

**6:15 p.m. – National Grid Pole Hearing: Request to install 13 jointly owned poles & relocate 4 jointly owned poles – N. Spencer Rd & West St.**

Mr. Gaudette reported the hearing will be rescheduled to a later date. Abutters will be notified of the new date.

**Action Item: Toll Booth Request for DPHS Athletic Boosters (April 30, 2016 or May 7 2016)**

Byron Dean, with the DPHS Athletics Booster Club asked for permission to hold a toll booth on April 30<sup>th</sup> on behalf of the Booster Club.

*A motion to approve the request of DPHS Athletic Boosters to hold a Toll Booth at the intersection of route 9 and Pleasant Street and by the Transfer Station on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> as discussed. (Pepe/Fritze) passed 5/0.*

**Action Item: Vote to Dissolve the Sugden Block Sale Committee**

Mr. Gaudette advised the Board to dissolve the Sugden Block Sale Committee as it is no longer needed with the creation of the Building Reuse Committee.

*A motion to dissolve the Sugden Block Sale Committee (Pepe/C. Woodbury) passed 5/0*

**Old Business**

**Questions for Legislative Delegation on February 22, 2016**

Mr. Gaudette confirmed that the Legislative Delegation will be at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. He asked the Board to submit any questions they may have tonight or by end of the week.

**Amend Policy Charge – Building and Property Reuse Committee**

Mr. Gaudette would like to revise the Charge to add the Fire Chief as a member in place of the Town Planner.

*A motion to replace the Town Planner with the Fire Chief as a member of the Building and Property Reuse Committee (Pepe/C. Woodbury) 5/0.*

### **Town Administrator's Report:**

#### **FY2017 Budget Update - State Revenue**

The Administrator reported that Governor Baker announced an increase of 4.3 % in local aid. He will provide a draft budget on February 22<sup>nd</sup> with these numbers.

The Board will meet on February 26<sup>th</sup> instead of February 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Board Liaison Reports**

Mr. Pepe noted that the Economic Development had a kickoff meeting that went very well. He commended Mr. Stevens for his efforts.

#### **Citizen Input**

None

#### **Board Member and Staff Comments**

Mr. Pepe was out of town for the first Comprehensive Roads Project meeting and said he was disappointed with the attendance. There was discussion about adding a reverse 911 call in addition to the New Leader and SCA advertisements.

MHPI and the Senior Center are holding a Valentine's Day dance on February 12<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie  
Administrative Assistant